GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3274
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2003
INSTANCES OF DRUNKENNESS
M.H. AMBAREESH;VINAY KUMAR SORAKE

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a few instances of drunkenness while on duty among the operating staff like Station Master, Cabinmen and staff manning the services and posted in vital installation have come to the notice of the Government;

(b) whether a Cabinman on duty at Amethi was found drunk and diverted an Express Train on the wrong track;

(c) whether the Government have launched a massive breathalyser test for all operating staff to prevent such mishaps; and

(d) if, so the details thereof ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a) Yes, Sir. Some instances of drunkenness on duty, among the station staff have been detected recently.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) & (d) Drivers are subjected to breathalyser tests whenever they go on duty and sign off. However, periodical safety drives and surprise inspections are conducted to detect and curb occasional cases of drinking on duty by operating staff. Such staff are withdrawn from duty and appropriate disciplinary action is initiated.